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Our Ref.: PT1817000

May 16, 2003

Via Courier

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE
Mail Stop RCE
1911 South Clark Place
Crystal Mall #1, 7th Floor Reception
Arlington, Virginia 22202 U.S.A.

Dear Sir:

Re: Request for Continued Examination

Application Serial No. 09/465,338, filed on December 17, 1999

of Kenneth S. Albert and Paul José Maes

for CHRONOTHERAPEUTIC FORMULATIONS OF DILTIAZEM AND THE ADMINISTRATION
THEREOF

Group Art Unit: 1615

Examiner: Amy E. Pulliam

CUSTOMER NO. 23607

Please find enclosed herewith the following:

1. Request for Continued Examination (RCE) Transmittal of United States Application Serial No. 09/465,338 under 37 C.F.R. §1.114;
2. Submissions;
3. Request for a three month extension of time making this response due **May 19, 2003**;
4. Check in the sum of **\$1,680.00 U.S.** funds (large entity) to cover the following fees:

Three month extension of time \$930.00 U.S., base filing for a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) \$750.00 U.S. If there should occur an overpayment or an underpayment of fees in respect of this submission, the Commissioner is authorized to access Deposit Account Number 08-3255 to make the appropriate adjustments and advise Applicant's agent;

5. Also enclosed herewith is a stamped, self-addressed verification card which we request that you kindly acknowledge and return to this office at the earliest opportunity.

We thank the Patent Office for its cooperation in this regard and look forward to receiving filing data in this matter.

Respectfully submitted,

Marcelo K. Sarkis
Agent for Applicant
Registration No. 37,015

MKS*kdk
Enclosures